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Chief, Geography Division

25 September 1957

MEMO : Assistant Director for Research and Reports
Chief, Geographic Area

Review of CIA/RR G-18, Novaya Zemlya

1. Several days ago, when you queried me about the status of the review of Novaya Zemlya, I informed you that I had written a memorandum on the report expressing my views. This memorandum, which you asked for and later thermofaxed, is no longer valid because I find some of the views expressed were of preliminary character and have changed after further consideration of the relationship of Novaya Zemlya to the over-all USSR strategy.

2. The report is a good compilation of detailed data from a number of secondary sources. There is an ample supply of photographs. The report appears to be very carefully organized and written and attests to painstaking effort on the part of the author.

3. The author appears to have brought together all of the detailed information available to the report and to have organized it in such a way that several concepts are left with the reader. Although these concepts result from the interpretation of geographic, military, scientific and economic associations, they do not answer for the reader the question of the significance of Novaya Zemlya to the U.S.S.R.

4. I suggest the utilization of much of the applicable material presented in the first fifteen pages of the report -- and including material from the summary and introduction, as well as pertinent selected items from the remainder -- to form a nucleus for one report which would analyze the significance of the Arctic island groups to the U.S.S.R. Much of the detailed material, the collection and understanding of which would be pertinent to the research process, would not appear in the report itself.

5. I shall be glad to work with you on the development of the organization of the new report suggested in paragraph 4, above. Therefore, I cannot approve of the publication of the report in its present form.

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Enclosure:

Multilith of CIA/RR-G-18, Novaya Zemlya

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ORIGINAL DOCUMENT MISSING PAGE(S):

no attachment